

STORIES

SHEAF

THE MAGAZINE OF
ALPHA GAMMA RHO
AGRICULTURE FRATERNITY

Winter 2003

Purdue Alumnus moves from FFA to Ministry



Rick and 1995-1996 Indiana State FFA Officer Team. Two officers, Joe Kelsay (left) and Phil McCutchan (front left) became AGRs at Purdue and served as Noble Ruler and Vice Noble Ruler, respectively.

After more than twenty years working with FFA, Purdue AGR alumnus Rick Nagel has decided to pursue a different calling. Nagel announced in August that he would be leaving the Indiana FFA Organization and begin studying theology at St. Meinrad's Seminary in southern Indiana. Rick is currently in his first year of Seminary. His study of Theology is a five-year formation program in which he will have the opportunity to study the Christian faith, serve in hospital ministry, study Spanish in a Central America emersion program and study in Rome and the Holy Land. He is studying for the Indianapolis Archdiocese and will be ordained as a parish priest to serve within the diocese.

Rick's journey in the FFA began just three weeks after he graduated from high school, when he was elected to serve the Indiana FFA Association as their student president for one year. He traveled over 30,000 miles giving keynote addresses, challenging high school students through leadership sessions and sitting with his peers one on one to share life experi-

ences and answer life's tough questions for teens. Nagel says that it was during this time that he "developed a greater love for servant leadership and community development." After his year of service with the FFA, he headed off to Purdue University to study agricultural education to teach high school. It was then that Nagel found Alpha Gamma Rho and met many mentors and friends.

While in college, Nagel enjoyed some great summers in Washington DC as an intern. While working for the US Department of Education through the National FFA Organization as a leadership counselor and director, his team taught patriotism, leadership and community building skills to hundreds of kids from across the country.

Soon after graduating from Purdue University, Rick taught high school agriscience, agribusiness and leadership classes in a rural farming community in northwest Indiana. After six years at Tri-County High School, he took a one-year position to build and open a new agriscience and business magnet program in inner city Indianapolis,

STAR academy. Living and working in the city was a great challenge for Rick, but he learned that kids are kids, no matter where they live. Thus, they created one of the first urban agricultural programs for college bound students in the world.

His journey in education then took him to the State Department of Education where he served for three years as the Executive Director of the Indiana FFA Association. While there, he led the 9,000 student organization in planning, leadership development, visioning and programmatic implementation. Finally, his career path led him to serve as State Executive Director for the Indiana FFA Foundation and Leadership Center. His responsibilities included fund raising, leadership development, and visioning.

Nagel says that his "career with the Indiana FFA was more of a vocation than a job. I always felt blessed to be given the opportunity to give my time to youth leadership, career and personal development.



Rick with Mom and family members at St. Meinrad Seminary. Pictured left to right: Brian, Jacob and Judy Egan, Rita Nagel and Rick Nagel.

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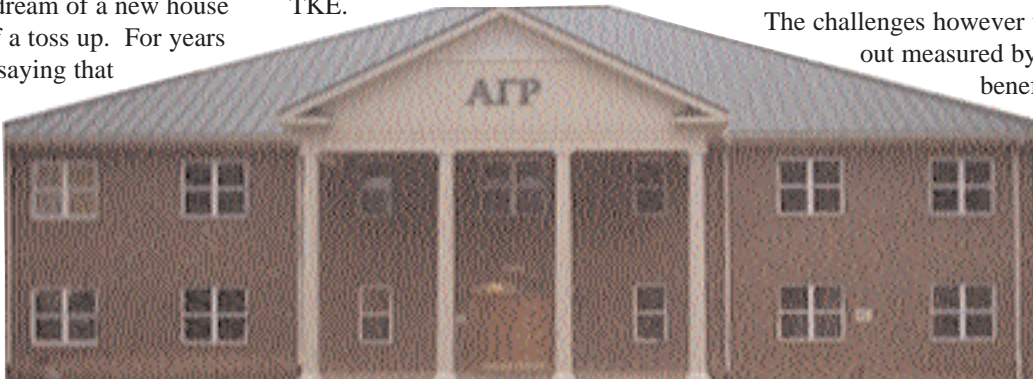
Building up to a bigger and better future

Joel Slade Peele, Jr. #1085 Nu Chapter, NCSU

For many people, some dreams will never come true, for others they seem to come true everyday. For Nu Chapter, the dream of a new house was somewhat of a toss up. For years people had been saying that this would be the year and again that year would go by and a corner stone had still not been laid. But 2002 was different. After years of work, struggle, and countless hours of negotiation, work finally began on Nu Chapter's new home.

Located approximately two miles off of the main North Carolina State University campus off Avent Ferry Road, the AGRs

will not be alone in their new 60-man house (now the largest on the campus), near them are the houses of ZTA and TKE.



And though the house is a blessing to the chapter, it will be a source of change and challenges for the men, especially when you consider that they will be moving from a 10-man house. But they are more than ready to accept the challenges ahead, and have already begun to

work on them, as several men serve on housing and rules committees with the alumni.

The challenges however will surely be out measured by the obvious benefits that will come about from the house. First off there will be a tremendous increase in the sense of brotherhood in the chapter with all members under one roof, and the house will definitely help to smooth out chapter affairs. No longer will people have to play phone tag, or run across town to get up with one another or to come to meetings.

(Continued on next page)



Educational Foundation News

Educational Foundation Supports Local Initiative



Pictured left to right are Marshall Baker, Jeremiah Hilliard, Will Dukes, Nicholas Montouri, Steven Hall, Michael Rovella, and Chris Vitelli.

The foundation matching awards program enables the Alpha Gamma Chapter to double their scholarship awards at Founder's Day. Using locally raised money and taking advantage of the National Foundation's matching funds (up to \$500 per year), scholarships recognizing the highest GPA, the most improved GPA and the highest big

brother/little brother combined GPA have been awarded. In short, the matching funds have allowed the alumni to recognize academic achievement with significant financial award. The availability of the matching funds is a selling point when raising local money. Folks like it when they know their contribution will go a little further, especially when it is encouraging academic success.

After several years of participation in the matching program, an adviser to the local chapter described the program as "straight forward and simple." You get your share and send it to the national office with an explanation of your intended use. Shortly thereafter a check for twice the amount (up to \$1000) arrives. It is a good program encouraging local initiative and supporting the chapter level objectives. ■

Letters of Thanks arrive from

Dear Brother Coffey,
I was awarded an AGR Excellence Scholarship, I am a junior at Western Illinois University, and the VNR of Finance for the Alpha Tau Chapter. I would like to thank you for your efforts in making this scholarship possible.

Thanks,
Luke Smick

Dear Mr. Josephson,
I would like to extend my sincerest thanks and gratitude to you and to the scholarship committee for extending to me the Lindsey Field Memorial scholarship. It was truly an honor to receive the scholarship at National Convention. The entire Convention was a positive learning experience for all the men that attended from Eta Chapter. We look forward to attending in 2004.
Thank Again.

Most Sincerely,
Brandon Schaefer
Noble Rider, Eta Chapter

ALPHA GAMMA RHO AGRICULTURE FRATERNITY

Winter Vol. 93-01
Published continuously since
1910

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SICKLE & SHEAF (ISSN 8750-6866) is published four times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer) by Publications Office, 10101 N. Ambassador Dr., Kansas City, MO. Members receive life subscriptions with payment of initiation fee. Periodicals postage paid at Kansas City, MO and additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Sickle & Sheaf, 10101 N. Ambassador Dr., Kansas City, MO 64153-1395.

New Chapter House Cont. from front page

Perhaps we will be able to bring back some of those grand old traditions that the alumni remember, and maybe we can create some new ones to pass down to future brothers. Hopefully, the house will create an atmosphere where people will want to be. It should serve as a creator of memories and proud alumni for many years to come. For as much as undergraduate success is important, it is creating a group of loyal and supportive alumni through those undergraduate activities that will see to the survival and the overall well being of the fraternity and ensure it's future success.

So it is with a sincere debt of gratitude the undergraduate brothers of the Nu Chapter thank our 1000 plus alumni base for what they have given to us. We know that without their support, both monetary and in the the means of countless hours of headache, argument, and compromise, our new home would still only be a dream. But rest assured that for now and for many years to come, that house and those young men in it will strive to represent not only the ideals and aspirations of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, but those who came before us and built up the name of AGR with hard work and dedication and cleared the way for those of us that are now undergrads, and those students yet to come. The alumni laid the foundation for those bricks and timbers, hopefully we, the Nu chapter, will be able to keep them in good standing, and keep the future of the Nu chapter not just growing bigger, but better and brighter. ■

FFA Director
Cont. from front page

(Continued on next page)

As an agriculturalist, it was rewarding to represent the future generation of leaders in our industry while working alongside outstanding professionals from across the state and nation."

When asked how his experience in Alpha Gamma Rho has affected him, Nagel said, "I am proud to be an AGR for "four years and a lifetime." My experience as an undergrad challenged me to grow professionally, socially and personally. The impact that my peers had on me influenced many of my life decisions. Today, I am proud to hear of the successes of my brothers; from career to family and from their personal contributions in agriculture to the impact they have made on their communities. Personally, I have found the greatest satisfaction in encouraging young men to become AGR Brothers as I know they will become better men because of the experience."

Nagel also credits his family for his successes: "God called me to serve Him as a Seminarian (and eventually as a Roman Catholic Priest) by giving me people in my life who helped me see my calling. Undoubtedly, being raised in a Catholic Christian home was the foundation for my faith. While my father passed away five years ago, he is still ever present in my life today, as he was prior to his passing. And, my mother is

a living example of Christianity. Together, they raised nine kids on 350 acres of cropland and livestock. The way in which they chose to live their lives is one of the examples I try to follow every day.

Rick Nagel is an AGR brother that all can be proud to call "brother." He is grateful to understand that there is something greater than self to serve and thanks God for the gifts he has been blessed with to be a servant leader in life.

"I have found the greatest satisfaction in encouraging young men to become AGR Brothers as I know they will become better men because of the experience."

Rick also has had the opportunity to share classes and fellowship with a fellow AGR brother while attending seminary school. T.J. Hart, from the University of

Arkansas (Alpha Iota Chapter) is also attending seminary school at St. Meinrad's. Rick said that it has been wonderful having a fellow AGR brother attend classes with him and really shows what a small (AGR) world it is!

Brother Hart also said that it was somewhat of a surprise to meet a fellow AGR brother at seminary, but it has been a blessing for him. The two have become very close friends, and have found many commonalities. The brotherhood bond that they have in AGR has been strengthened in the bonds of the Lord.

If you would like to contact Rick, his e-mail address is: rnagel@saintmeinrad.edu ■

Tenth AGR Congressman Elected!

By Becky Schlake, Communications Coordinator



Devin Nunes, a third generation farmer, was born and raised in Tulare County, in California's South San Joaquin Valley. Devin learned about business, farming and the issues that face today's rural communities while managing his family farm.

Devin was initiated into Chi chapter at Cal Poly State University in 1995 and graduated in 1996 with a degree in Agricultural Business and a master's degree in agriculture.

After graduating from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Devin returned to the San Joaquin Valley to manage the family farm. In 1996, at the age of 22, Devin ran and won a seat on the COS Board of Trustees. He was unopposed in his bid for reelection in 2000. During his tenure on the COS Board of Trustees, Devin has led the effort to provide smaller communities greater access to the Internet and satellite educational services. Devin is a graduate of the California Ag Leadership Fellowship Program (Class of 2000). In 2001 Devin was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as California

state director for the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development.

Devin was elected to the 21st Congressional District seat in November of 2002. Devin focused his campaign on agriculture, the need for additional water storage, and continued economic development in the San Joaquin Valley.

When asked about his experiences in Alpha Gamma Rho, Nunes said that "Everywhere you go in agricultural circles, you find AGR members. It is a good networking tool. Even in the House of Representatives, AGR is well-represented!" Nunes remarked that the mentors who encouraged him to run for office, were the very same men who encouraged him to join AGR. Many of these mentors were older farmers in his community who had been collegiate AGR members many years earlier.

Nunes reminds all undergraduate AGR members that while it is important to go out and have fun, it is more important to stay home and get your homework done before leaving.

He asks any AGR member, if stopping in the Capitol in Washington DC, to try and stop by and meet him and say hello. ■

The Purpose of Alpha Gamma Rho

(with interpretations by Omer Dye, Missouri)

To make better men, and through them a broader and better agriculture

My growing-up years on a small Missouri family farm had provided me an extremely limited view of the world. When I left for college, I had no idea that agriculture could be broader or better than tending a few cows, hogs and sheep.

By surrounding our members with influences tending to encourage individual endeavor, resourcefulness and aggressive effort.

As an AGR pledge, I felt peer pressure to carry my share (and more!) of the chapter's academic achievement. Sometimes the pressure was a bit too aggressive, but it generated a competitive spirit that continues to drive me toward higher personal goals...

Along lines making for the development of better mental, social, moral and physical qualities;

As undergraduate AGRs, we enjoyed wholesome meals in the formal dining room. With the housemother's tutoring, we soon learned to use the right knife, fork and spoon. We also learned how to scrub floors, wash windows and stoke a furnace – valuable skills for a future homeowner.

To promote a wider acquaintance and broader outlook on the part of agricultural men

Agriculture now embraces more than farming. Much more!! As the first and most important link in the planet's food chain, agriculture is the ultimate source of health and wealth for people everywhere. AGR's will continue to fill key positions in agriculture and worldwide food chain of their collegiate training for leadership.

Through fellowship in a national organization that stands for the best social, mental and moral development.

Now as an alumnus, I look back on a priceless college experience, thanks to my fraternity. For more than half a century, I have found AGR's everywhere I go, from Maine to California...working in every conceivable endeavor...some inside agriculture, some not. But each and every one of them exhibits a set of core values that

E.T. York Endows lecture series



E.T. York, former chancellor of Florida's State University System and the creator of the University of Florida's Institute of

Flood and Agricultural Sciences, and his wife, Vam, have endowed a lecture series for the American Society of Agronomy.

"I think this will provide an opportunity for agronomy professionals to hear a message from globally prominent people in agriculture," York said. "These lectures will highlight new directions in agricultural sciences and provide an interesting, challenging message to faculty and graduate students."

The lectures are presented at an annual plenary meetings held jointly by the ASA, the Crop Science Society of America and the Soil

Society of America. The societies are separate, but share administration and many members. Members from all three of these societies will be able to attend the lectures.

"This was an effort on the part of Vam and I to do something for our professional society," he said. "I haven't had time to donate a lot of attention to agronomy, but in recent years I'm still as active there as I can be."

As UF's provost for agriculture, York brought together the College of Agriculture, the Cooperative Extension Service and the State Agricultural Experiment Stations under a single administrative umbrella to create the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences in 1964. York was president of UF from 1973 to 1974 and chancellor of Florida's university system from 1975 to 1980. Since 1980 he has dedicated himself to activities related to the problems of world hunger and malnutrition. ■

Alpha Gamma Rho University

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

The National Agricultural Fraternity

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- AGR News
- Calendar
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- Leaders and Staff
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- Educational Foundations
- AGR History Book

2003 Leadership Seminars are rapidly approaching!
Plan on attending one (or more) of these informational and fun AGR Seminars. There is programming available for Advisors, alumni, sponsors, officers and undergraduates of Alpha Gamma Rho.

New Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

www.agrs.org

New features are being added every day! Check it out today!

Stay Connected!

Purdue AGR's living or visiting Florida are invited to a Delta chapter get together on Tuesday, January 28, 2003.

Tentative Schedule:

10:00 am: Meet at Villages at Country Creek Club House
11:00 am: Lunch at Club House
12:30 pm: Golf for those interested

Others may check out the local area (we'll have suggested activities) and the Club House Dining Room will be available to just sit and talk. We also have tennis courts, swimming pools and walking trails.

4:30 pm: Dinner

Any Purdue AGR and their wife or friend interested in attending or who want more information is encouraged to contact Brother Fredericks:
Phone: (239) 949-6388

Cody Lane named as new RVP- South



Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity is proud to announce that Cody Lane has been named the new Regional Vice President for the South Central Region. This region includes the chapters in Arizona, Arkansas, New Mexico and Texas.

He is a member of the Beta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho at Tarleton State University. Lane graduated from Tarleton in May of 1998 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Services and Development. In 1998 Lane was recognized for outstanding contributions to student life programs at Tarleton by being awarded the John Tarleton Spirit Award. He was also awarded InterFraternity Council Man of the Year in 1997. Before entering Tarleton in 1995 he earned two Associates of Science degrees from Weatherford College one in Agribusiness and the other in Farm and Ranch Management.

Lane also served on the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity Home Office staff from June of 1998 to May of 2000 as a chapter consultant. Since leaving the Home Office staff he has worked for The LANE Company, an Animal Health Care Sales and Marketing Agency representing companies such as: ADM Animal Health & Nutrition Division, CHR Hansen BioSystems, Miller Manufacturing Company and Straight Arrow Products in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. ■

Dallas-Fort Worth Alumni Association

The DFW Alumni Association has a new home on the world wide web. The website at www.dfwagraa.freesevers.com will be updated with information pertaining to the chapters activities, officers and events. Anyone that is living in the DFW area is invited to join the association and to take part in the fun and fellowship.

ON THE MOVE ON THE ON THE MOVE ON THE MOVE



Levi Woods
Arkansas State

Levi J. Woods, Arkansas State, accepted a job at Arkansas State University as Assistant Director of Admissions soon after graduating in May 2002. He is responsible for assisting parents and students in preparation for attending college and recruitment. He would like to credit AGR for giving him the opportunity to hold leadership positions which led him to this job.

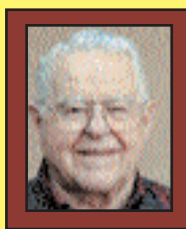
Richard M. Ellis, Iowa State, and his wife Jo recently received a "Lifetime Achievement" Award in the Arabian Horse industry from Easter Crabbit Arabian horse Society. Brother Ellis is the Mayor of the city of Sedona, Arizona.

Kaleb Varrelmann, Iowa State, is a poultry territory sales representative. Varrelmann will be responsible for sales in Texas, south Arkansas, California, and the western U.S. He was previously with Cargill Animal Nutrition.

Richard Dwyer, Southern Illinois, has been named president of Kent Feeds. Dwyer joined the company in 1984 and has served in a number of executive capacities, most recently as vice president of sales and marketing for the past four years.

Justin Voge, Oklahoma State, is finishing his masters of science at OSU in Animal Science and was named the Outstanding Master's Student in the OSU Department of Animal Science. He is looking forward to starting his Ph.D. program at Kansas State University and applying for admission to the veterinary science program for 2004. Justin was married on August 24, 2002.

Larry Poss, Kansas State, moved from Elizabethtown, PA, to St. Joseph, MO, to take a part time position with USDA as a compliance specialist.



Richard Ellis
Iowa State

Dan Theno, Wisconsin-Madison, was recently selected as executive director of the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. The organization is comprised of 5,000 thoroughbred race horse owners and trainers in Ohio. Theno remains a proud Badger fan even though he resides in Grove City, a suburb of Columbus, OH.

Wayne DeBuhr, Wisconsin - Platteville, has been named dairy product specialist for ABS GLOBAL. DeBuhr will be responsible for developing marketing materials, helping with representative training and inventory management and positioning of the dairy products. He was most recently domestic marketing coordinator.

Thomas Harkenrider, Virginia Tech, has joined ABS GLOBAL as regional dairy sire analyst. Harkenrider will be responsible for evaluation, selection and acquisition of dairy sires west of New York and east of the Mississippi River. He was previously with Genex Co-op.

Dustin Carr, Wyoming, is starting a new career as a financial advisor at AXA Financial Advisors. His goal is provide a service to the rural areas in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming that may not be available.

Dr. John King, DVM, Minnesota, has left private practice after twelve years as a veterinarian and owner of a mixed animal practice. He has accepted the position of executive director of the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine.

Eddie Paschall, Tennessee- Knoxville, was elected vice chairman of the Tennessee State Forestry Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to provide policy guidance to the Tennessee Division of Forestry relative to forest management policies in Tennessee. Eddie was appointed by Governor Don Sundquist to serve an eight year term on the Commission. Eddie received his BS in Forestry from the University of Tennessee in 1970 and is employed by Pasmenco Zinc, Inc. He is a community leader in production agriculture in Smith County, Tennessee, and also serves on the Board of the Smith County Cattlemans Assn. and the Board of the Smith County Farm Bureau. He is a past member of the Gordonsville, TN City Council and Planning Commission.



Travis Wright
Tennessee -
Knoxville

Travis Wright, Tennessee-Knoxville, is currently pursuing a doctorate in Human Development and Psychology at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. In the three years following undergraduate study at the University of Tennessee, he managed a national program for the Points of Light Foundation in Washington, DC and taught 6th grade in DC Public Schools.

James B. Rooney, Cal Poly State - SLO, has been elected as the County Assessor for Amador County in California. He is married to Mariya and they have one son, Seamus.



James Rooney
Cal Poly



Chet Peterson
Kansas State

Chet Peterson, Kansas State, received Kansas State University's Ag Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award. Chet is a full time free-lance writer-photographer covering the entire USA and Canada. His articles have appeared in 162 different publications in six countries. His photographs have appeared in 201 different publications with covers on 46 publications in 11 countries.

Allen Hurley, Kansas State, was elected vice chairman of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program.

Allen Featherstone, Wisconsin - River Falls, received the American Agricultural Economics Association Graduate Teaching Award.

Brother Johnson receives CALS highest honor



Brother Larry Johnson, UW-Madison, dedicated his career as a professional engineer to agriculture at the local, state,

national and international levels. This year, the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison will give Johnson an Honorary Recognition Award to thank him for his service and dedication to agriculture.

Larry Johnson is deeply involved in activities in his home town community,

extremely supportive of the biological systems engineering program in the College, and well recognized for professional accomplishments in state and national organizations, according to Ron Schuler, chair of the biological systems engineering department.

Johnson earned undergraduate degrees in agricultural and mechanical engineering and a master's degree in agricultural engineering from the UW-Madison. He began his career as a professional engineer with the Ford Motor Company's Tractor Operations in Detroit, Mich., where he also earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Detroit. He joined Butler

Manufacturing, Jamesway Division, in 1982 as manager of product development, primarily for farmstead equipment. He was later promoted to vice-president of engineering when the division became J-STAR Industries in 1987, and later vice president of engineering and manufacturing.

More recently, he was corporate director of engineering and product development for Weiler & Company, Whitewater, Wis. He is currently developing his own consulting engineering firm, Johnson & Associates, specializing in product safety systems and litigation claims management for the agricultural and outdoor power equipment industries.

As a new member of the American Society for Agricultural Engineers, I found Larry very approachable. He showed those leadership traits younger members could use as a model for self-improvement, says Kevin Klubertanz, who later joined Johnson at J-STAR.

Professional organizations and the UW-Madison have benefited greatly from the contributions Larry has so willingly provided. He deserves this award. ■

WE ON THE MOVE ON THE MOVE

Daniel Moser, Kansas State, is an assistant professor in beef cattle genetics in the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. He lives in Westmoreland.

Shawn Etherton, Kansas State, is a seed quality supervisor for Monsanto in Kihei, Hawaii.

Travis Larson, Kansas State, is a food technologist at Food Brands Food Service Co. in Hutchinson.

Robert Moore, Kansas State, is vice president of Pied Piper Pet Wildlife Inc. in Hamilton, Texas.

Ryan Reiff, Kansas State, is an assistant manager at Ada Grain Co. in Minneapolis. He lives in Abilene.

Daniel Schmidt, Kansas State, is a nutritionist at PerforMix High Plains LLC in Scott City.

Dr. Patrick J. Silva, New Mexico State, is the Biotechnology Licensing Officer at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He was appointed to this position in August of 2002.

Gary Klug, UW-Platteville, and **Cody Hiemke**, UW-Madison, have recently been elected to the board of directors for the Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative. The Cooperative serves its members in aspects of marketing, promotion, and education of youth, in the sheep industry. Klug works for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture as a Supervisor in the Food Safety Division and Hiemke has recently returned to Madison to do post graduate work developing a marketing and production plan for sheep producers. His project is in cooperation with Equity Cooperative, Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative and UW-Madison

Dan Newhouse, Washington State, was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives.

Lt Col Raymond E. Crawford, Nebraska, turned 83 on December 2nd, 2002. He was a B-24 Pilot in World War II in the Southwest Pacific, 43rd Bomb Group of 5th Air Force.

Dr. Donald L. Plucknett, Nebraska, has been busy this past year, reviewing agricultural development projects of Sasakawa

Global 2000, a project involving an unusual group of leading partners - former president Jimmy Carter, Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Dr. Norman Borlaug and Yohei Saskawa, President of the Nippon Foundation. In four trips to Africa this year, Brother Plucknett reviewed efforts in Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, Nigeria and Ethiopia.

Brian Frieden, Illinois State, was awarded the Secretary of Agriculture Award for Superior Service in 2001.

Tarrell L. Ries, Virginia Tech, recently moved to West Virginia and has been working for Edward Jones Investments since January 2001. His second child, a daughter, was born on November 24th, 2002.

Sean Kouplen, Oklahoma State, was named citizen of the year in Bixby, Oklahoma. He is on the executive council for the OSU National Alumni Board and is the Chairman for the Bixby Chamber of Commerce.



Sean Kouplen
Oklahoma



Brett Ordnung
Missouri

Brett Ordnung - Missouri, was recently elected as president for Missouri Student Association at the University of Missouri - Columbia.

Arnold K. Sandager, Minnesota, is recovering well from a complex case of liver cancer after extensive surgeries and 49 days of hospitalization. Arnie moved to Dayton, Ohio, to marry his high school sweetheart on July 29, 2000. They are still Gopher fan loyalists!

Dr. John W. White, Oklahoma State, just received the 2002 Distinguished Alumni award at Oklahoma State University in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. He is also an honorary member of the Association of Landscape Contractors of Colorado.

Scott Shuman: Setting the Pace in Agriculture Real Estate



It was in the autumn of 1991 that Colorado State University president Albert Yates presented Scott Shuman (Rho '89) with the University's Pacesetter Leadership Award. More than a decade later, Scott continues to set the pace in his chosen field of agriculture real estate marketing.

Scott manages the day-to-day operations of the Schrader/Westchester Auction Company. The firm—billed as the agricultural auction company of America—is a joint venture involving Westchester Group, Inc of Champaign, Illinois, and the Schrader Auction Company of Columbia City, Indiana. As manager, Scott has been responsible for marketing well over 100,000 acres in the past five years! Along the way, he earned the coveted Rose Award for auction excellence in 1998. In that same year, he accepted the National

Auctioneers Association's Auction of the Year award on behalf of Schrader/Westchester. In July of this year, he accepted the 2002 Auction of the Year Award.

Scott is still leading and he credits his contacts and experience with AGR for much of his success. "The skills I learned through Alpha Gamma Rho have helped me tremendously in my career," he told us. "Just understanding how to work with others and within a team has been invaluable. And the network of friends I met at AGR is also important. It's extensive, too. We market agriculture property from coast to coast and it's amazing how many AGR alumni you meet when you're out there in the trenches."

The auction business consumes a great deal of Scott's time, but he still has some to give. "I stay in contact with the AGRs I worked with in Washington DC and we all still spend time speaking at high schools and colleges on the future

Woeste named to Advisory Panel



John T. Woeste, dean emeritus for the Florida Cooperative Extension Service and professor emeritus of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida, has been named to the National Sea Grant Review Panel.

Woeste, dean and director of the Cooperative Extension Service for 1976-1995, has been active in agriculture,

aquaculture and technology transfer issues throughout his career. His responsibility on the 15-member review panel will be to advise the Secretary of Commerce and the head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on the direction, operations and performance of the National Sea Grant College Program.

Sea Grant is a nationwide network of 30 university-based programs that funds research and extension efforts to promote the sustainable use and conservation of marine and coastal resources. ■

MOVING? CHANGING JOBS? RECEIVING AWARDS?

CHAPTER & INITIATION NUMBER (IF KNOWN):			JOB TITLE:
MO	DAY	YEAR	EMPLOYER:
HOME PHONE: ()			AWARDS & LEADERSHIP POSITION IN INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY:
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Please enclose a photo to be used in a future issue of SICKLE & SHEAF.

Send to: Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, 10101 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153 or FAX: (816) 891-9401. (FAX label on reverse as well.)

Alpha Sigma Chapter Reaches Out

By Austin Downs, Alpha Sigma

Sigma chapter of the national Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity!" (Dan de Boer, Alpha Sigma 1963).

It has been over 40 years since the Alpha Sigma chapter was voted into membership at the 37th National Convention in Minneapolis. The paragraph above was the first paragraph in an article written by Dan de Boer who was the reporter for the Alpha Sigma chapter. The article appeared in the May 1963 issue of the Sickle and Sheaf. Brother de Boer's article detailed the installation of Alpha Sigma as the 39th chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho.

In an effort to reach out to this diverse group of AGR Alumni, Alpha Sigma had its First Annual AGR Alumni Dinner and Benefit Auction on May 10, 2002 at The Dante Club in Fresno, California. It was an outstanding event for all who attended.

Over 200 alumni, family and friends attended the dinner.

During cocktail hour a silent auction was held. Republican Congressional Candidate Devin Nunes, an AGR alumnus, spoke of the great things AGR has done in his life. He also spoke of the importance of political participation on the part of the agricultural community. With everyone in fine spirits the live auction ensued. A long list of auction items included model tractors, containers of Round-up, and several guided hunting trips. The auctioneer, father to one of the Alpha Sigma members, was a true professional. The last item up for bid was a basket of twelve long-stem strawberries. That clamshell of berries fetched \$375 dollars. What an event!

It is important that all alumni know Alpha Sigma is alive and strong. The chapter is in need of alumni support now more than ever. The current members and alumni board are looking for alumni. If you would like to know more about the chapter and what is going on, please contact the individuals below. There are several upcoming events, including an Alumni Golf Tournament in April and the annual Pink Rose Formal. We look forward to hearing from you. ■

Alumni Board President
Bryan Mello
(559) 816-3889
e-mail bmello@lightspeed.net
or
Alumni Board Vice-President
Austin Downs
(831) 750-7400
e-mail austin.downs@driscolls.com



"The most important historical event in the life and development of an eager and ambitious group of 28 active members and 10 alumni members of the Fresno Colony at Fresno State College happened on March 2. The group was officially installed as the Alpha

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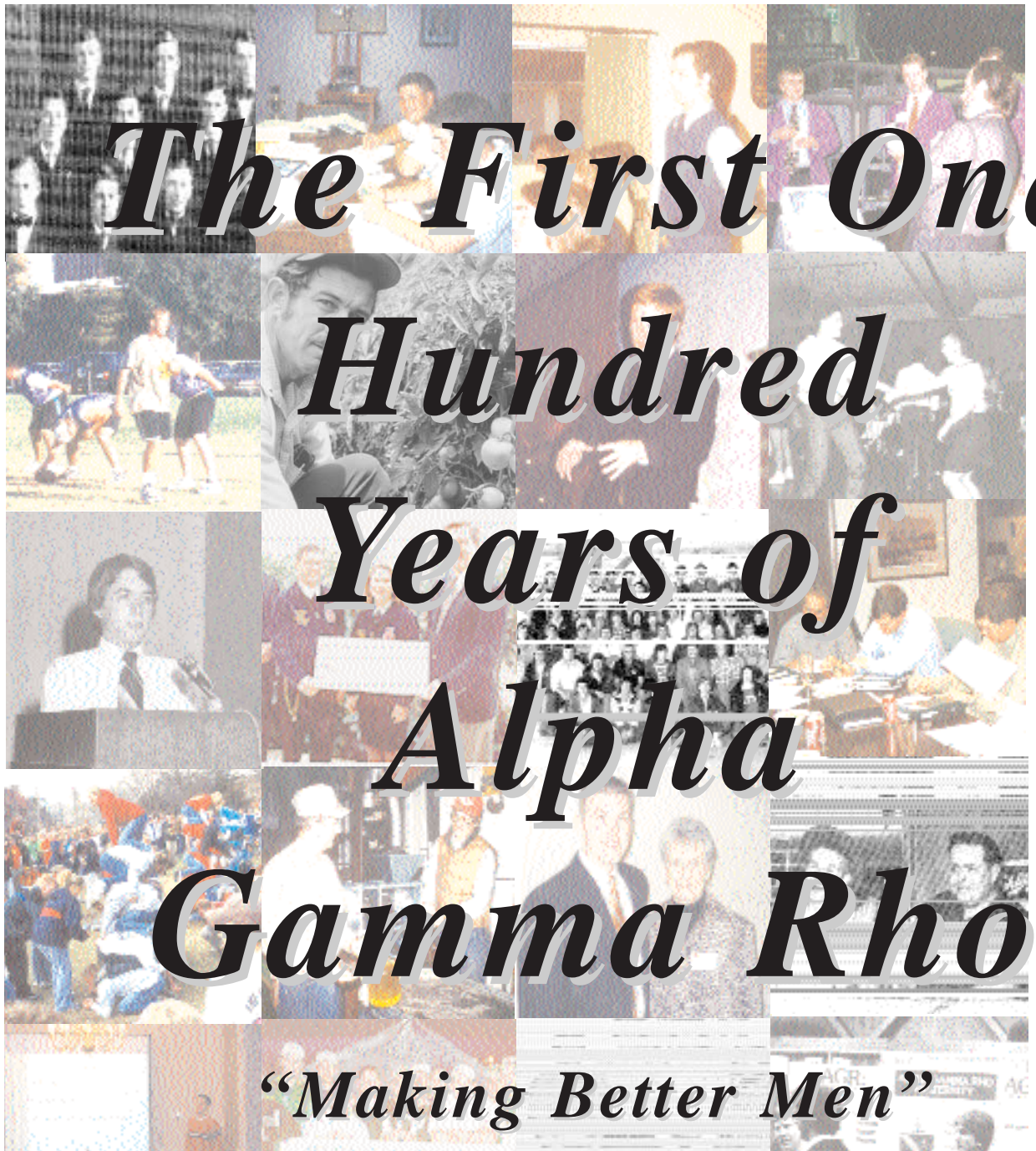
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Check out the AGR website for more information: www.agrs.org

Transitions

The following deaths were reported to the Home Office since the last publication.

Arkansas

Russell Hughes, 1937
 Charles L. Weems, 1948

Auburn

Robert L. Jones, Jr., 1984

California - Davis

Richard O. Woodfin, Sr., 1925
 Milton D. Miller, 1930
 Bill Becker, 1934
 George L. Eales, 1936

Cornell

Arthur T. Williams, 1930
 Rodney S. Lightfoote, 1938
 Kenneth F. Schaeffer, 1971

Florida

Charles Saunders, 1957
 Vincent M. Jones, 1965
 Robert E. Norris, 1965

Georgia

T.Z. Lanier, Jr., 1948
 James G. Culpepper, 1949

Illinois

Lawrence Morgan, 1939
 Everett W. Bock, 1941
 Joseph W. Umbach, 1953
 Edward F. Stokes, 1960

Iowa State

Robert F. Black, 1935
 Donald E. Christensen, 1946
 Kalju Eik, 1952

Kansas State

Alvin J. Mistler, 1935

Kentucky

Arthur M. Harney, Jr., 1938
 Donald Kells, 1941
 Bruce A. Waters, 1968

Louisiana State

Horace J. Davis, 1931
 Lonnie L. Fielder, Jr., 1950

Maine

Howard N. Waterhouse, 1951

Maryland

Emory C. Leffel, 1941
 Louis E. Kelly, 1946
 John H. Suit, 1967

Massachusetts

Clement E. Brault, 1937

Michigan

Robert P. Burrington, 1947
 Alvin R. Conquest, 1948

Missouri

Arthur Paulsmeyer, 1948
 Robert R. Tuttle, 1950

Minnesota

Bernard C. Sonstegard, 1941
 Eldon H. Rost, 1942
 Amos L. Hayes, 1943
 Gene Galetta, 1950

Montana State

Edward M. Peterson, 1929
 Bernhard H. Merkel, 1935
 Lowell B. Hutton, 1940
 William R. Neel, 1948
 Leonard K. Buell, 1950

Nebraska

William J. Ralston, 1931
 Arnold G. Davis, 1950

New Hampshire

Paul W. Henderson, 1930
 Quentin O. Theroux, 1941
 William T. Jordan, 1942
 Clare B. Mitchell, 1950
 Wayne E. Symington, 1968

New Mexico

Samuel R. Romero, 1953

North Dakota State

Robert B. Turner, 1951
 Leonar Lesmeister, 1958

North Carolina State

Joseph T. Frye, Jr., 1938

Ohio State

Carl E. Pickering, 1929
 Glen L. Van Fossen, 1937
 Charles S. Ripp, 1950
 William R. Cromley, 1964

Oregon State

Henry C. Dickman, 1939

Purdue

Charles E. Hughes, 1929

Robert H. Douglas, 1935
 Walter G. Cantley, 1937
 Elmer C. Nesius, 1937
 Floyd Bass Jr., 1941

Rutgers

David P. Howell, 1954

Tarleton State

Gregory H. Orr, 1992

Tennessee - Knoxville

Tom B. Matlock, 1951
 Herbert Caldwell, 1953
 Tommy Pettigrew, 1970

Texas A&M

David D. Lundell, 1986

Virginia Tech

Rex M. Wightman, 1975

Vermont

Harry E. Sommer, 1961

Washington State

Chester B. Stonecipher, 1930
 Andrew S. Kupka, 1938
 Harris T. Rea, 1938
 Robert Dennis, 1941
 Walter D. Schodde, 1962

West Virginia

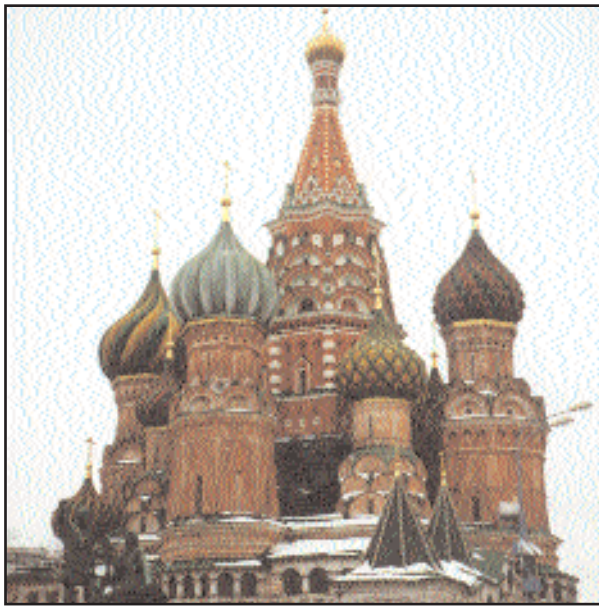
A. Robert Templeton, Jr., 1962

Wisconsin - Madison

Arthur J. Kautza, 1947

Ron and Josh s Russian Adventure

Last spring, two Florida collegiate AGR brothers, Ron Westover and Josh Brown, went on an experience of a lifetime. They both represented UF's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences on a study abroad program in Russia. The students lived and studied in Moscow for four months. Ron and Josh lived in a dormitory with seven other Americans from throughout the United States. In addition, nine Russian students studied side by side with the American students. There was an intense Russian language class that helped them adapt to the new country. The classes were rigorous, but once a week they traveled outside of the city to an agricultural operation. This helped Ron and Josh examine agricultural practices in other parts of the world. During



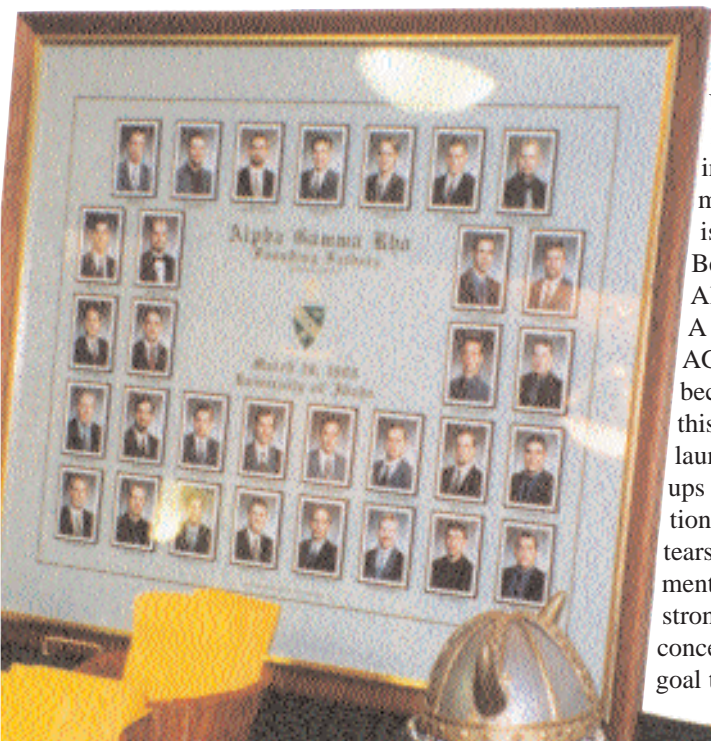
Ron Westover and Josh Brown, both undergraduate AGR members visited St. Basil's Cathedral.

the trip they toured a dairy, an egg laying facility, and an extension office and Monsanto's Russian branch office. In addition to the educational aspect of the trip, they also got the opportunity to explore the rich culture that is deeply embedded in the country's history. The brothers went on weekly excursions to various museums and performances. They saw a ballet in Kremlin and toured the Hermitage museum. After classes ended, they had a two-week vacation in which they toured the country-side and Saint Petersburg.

Overall, the experience was a rewarding one that helped these AGRs in their development as better men. ■

University of Idaho Chapter Celebrates 10 year Anniversary!

By Tom Gates, Original Board Member of Beta Phi Alumni Association



November 1992, student union, University of Idaho, 16 young men are initiated as colony members into what is to become the Beta Phi chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. A long time dream of AGR alumni at Idaho became a reality and this new neophyte is launched. Ten years of ups and downs, frustrations, dreams, worry, tears, pride and achievements, supported by a strong foundation of concerned alumni and a goal that was never lost sight of has endured. The

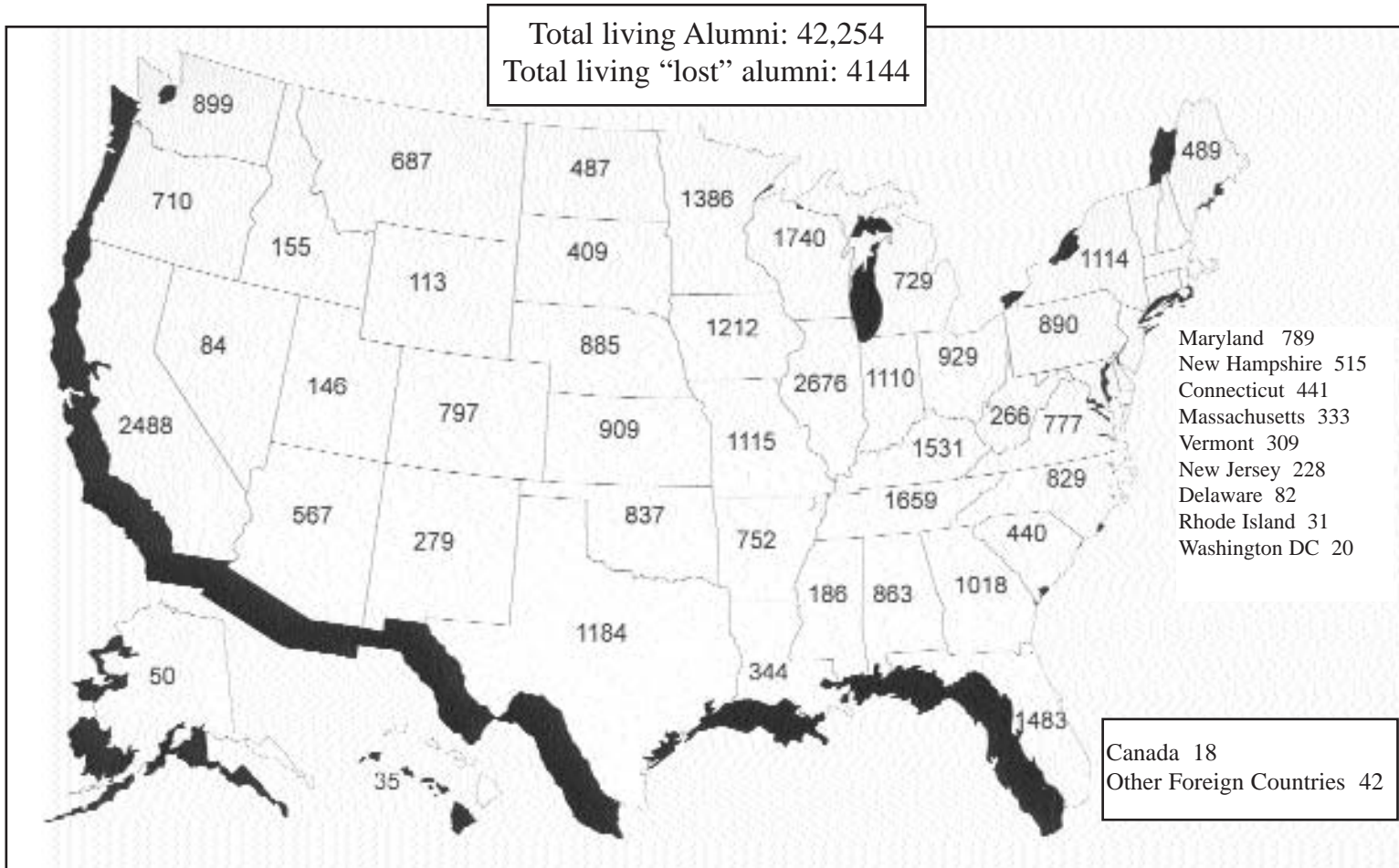
"critical mass" has evolved and Beta Phi

at the University of Idaho is a campus presence.

Moscow, Idaho, October 26, 2002. Homecoming Day, University of Idaho. Members of the Beta Phi Chapter have been up most of the night preparing the float for the annual Homecoming Day parade. As the parade begins it is a cool 28 degrees, but the sun is up and promises a glorious day for all of the festivities. There are over 100 entries, the AGR float among them. Following the parade, the alumni gather at the chapter house for their annual membership meeting and election of board members and officers. Transition over time passes the reins of the alumni association over to an alumni board consisting of totally Beta Phi alumni. This is a true indicator of progress.

Following the football game, the chapter members, with friends, wives, many parents, alumni and special guests from the University staff gather for the first ten-

year anniversary celebration. The program began with a buffet dinner followed by presentations from the current and first board presidents, the colony adviser, the first and current Noble Rulers, and special presentations to alumni whose contributions have truly made the difference. The program ended with special music and entertainment supplied by the chapter members. What an evening, what a day, what a remarkable first ten-year experience this has been. A sense of great pride was felt by those who are but a small part of what the effort of many has produced. Certainly, the most rewarding part of the celebration was seeing the reunion of friends, the smiles, the hugs, a tear here and there, and the rebirth of wonderful memories the returning Beta Phi alumni experienced that evening. It was a sterling example of what Alpha Gamma Rho's lifelong brotherhood is all about for the current chapter members of the fraternity. Need there be more said? ■



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S



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AGRs Across the Country

This map shows the location of Alpha Gamma Rho alumni brothers across the nation. Do you know an AGR Brother who does not receive AGR mailings? He may be considered "lost" in the Home Office records. Please contact Terri at (816) 891-9200 ext. 10 or by email at Terri@AlphaGammaRho.org to update your records.

A True AGR Hero

By Brother Pete Bjorklund, Cal Poly Undergrad

Paul Brown is the kind of person you feel privileged to know. Standing at least six feet seven inches tall, his solid frame easily fills a doorway and his presence is known the minute he enters a room. Without a doubt he commands respect, but is a stranger to no one, striking up a conversation at every opportunity and listening in turn with undivided attention. His powerful charisma emanates from his cheery grin, and after even the shortest introduction, you'll feel like you have a true friend in this great man.

Paul is an AGR Chi Chapter Alumni, Alpha Nu Class. Born and raised in Santa Ynez on the family farm, he attended Cal Poly as an Ag Science Major and minored in both Philosophy and Psychology graduating in 1992. Gathering leadership qualities from holding on-campus offices, playing rugby for Cal Poly, working downtown in San Luis Obispo, and learning from AGR, Paul developed a balanced and very busy lifestyle that he has not stepped away from even today.

After college Paul worked with inner-city adolescents in the Oakland area. He lived among the troubled youth in a compound established to help straighten out the lives of those who did not have the benefits of a loving family and proper upbringing that most people take for granted. He feels this was much more than a position or job, but a way to reach out and touch the lives of others in a very positive way. "For the first few weeks of every program I was the drill instructor, and would demand order by holding fast to strict discipline. And by the end of the twelve week program, I was the one those kids knew they could count on; the one they could depend on. For many of them I was the first person they could trust. I learned so much from that, and loved what I was doing."

Currently, Paul is a Sergeant in the US Army, reactivated recently due to the September 11th attacks on the United States. He is based in Barstow, California, at Fort Irwin as a leader and trainer of military policemen, and was transferred to San Luis Obispo Military Base to continue training

for an upcoming mission overseas. As a Sergeant in a Combat Military Police Unit, Paul will be the first to arrive on any battlefield to direct tank maneuvers and personnel operations, and handle prisoners of war. Though he does not yet exactly know where he will be stationed in the coming year, his patriotism and commitment to his duty is unfaltering, and his optimism is unparalleled. "I was told that where I'll be going has a lot of sand," he said in a confident tone, "but it doesn't do any good for me to try and speculate where that is. I'll go where I am needed the most." Paul epitomizes the true American Serviceman.

Like back in the college days when he was an undergraduate AGR, a Cal Poly Rugby Player and holding a job at the same time, Paul is never satisfied doing just one thing. Though he is Sergeant in the military and could easily be asked to relocate at any time, his ties to San Luis Obispo are not easily overlooked. He is the owner of Mother's Tavern, one of the most prominent and widely known bars and dining establishments in San Luis. A

very active owner, he gives the business direction, and is taking his spare time when he's away from the base to train new managers and offer his expertise in whatever he can. "From back at AGR I learned not to expect more from people than they are able to give you. People have their limitations, so concentrate on what they can do, and their contributions will be what they can do best." It is plain to see he is on a first-name basis with his employees, and is always interested in their well-being.

At 34, Paul Brown has a lifetime of experience, and is showing no signs of slowing down. He is honest to himself and those around him, and without a doubt his strongest qualities are integrity and respect. "Look inside and forgive yourself for what you're not, and be modest and proud of what you are." He said straightforwardly. If you ever get a chance to meet Paul Brown, take it, you will be really glad you did. ■



AGR Members discuss the present and future of Alpha Gamma Rho.

Make Plans to Attend an AGR Leadership Seminar this Spring!

By Thad Koenigsfeld, Chapter Consultant

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite all AGRs, undergraduate and alumni, to the 2003 Leadership Seminars. This year's seminars start the weekend of February 14 in our Nation's Capital and run the following three weekends in Birmingham, Reno, and finishing up in Indianapolis. These seminars are not only for the officers of the chapter, but the emerging leaders and active alumni as well. There will be an active slate of activities dealing with personal and professional development, career skills, and enhancement of your chapter on a local and national level in addition to other topics. It is a great chance for you to get an opportunity to see a part of the country you have not seen before, and possibly see some other agriculture practices. But, most importantly, you will get the opportunity to talk and interact with AGR's from all across the country. It is also a great chance to learn how other chapters deal with the some of same issues that your chapter has been dealing with hundreds of miles away. So get your registration in to the seminar of your choice (although you are not limited to just one) and look forward to having a great time at the 2003 Alpha Gamma Rho Leadership Seminars. ■

Dates To Remember

January 24-25	Adviser Forum Kansas City, MO
February 14-15	Leadership Seminar Washington DC
February 21-22	Leadership Seminar Birmingham, Alabama
Feb. 28 - March 1	Leadership Seminar Reno, Nevada
March 7 - 8	Leadership Seminar Indianapolis, Indiana

Log onto our website at www.args.org for more news and events about Alpha Gamma Rho! Also -- be sure to check out the online version of SICKLE & SHEAF, available now for your use!

